

Lower Railway Freight

†1596. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been comparatively lower railway freight during the past few years;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that middle income groups of society have been benefited due to the lower railway freight whereas the poorest sections have always suffered due to the resultant higher rate of goods; and
- (c) if so, what are the details of action being taken by Government to arrest this tendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Railway freight rates have either not been increased or increased nominally in the past. To help the people of all sections, of the soiociety including the poorest sections, Railways are also granting exemptions from freight hikes to the essential commodities like Grains & Pulses, Kerosene, LPG, Sugar, Salt, Edible oils etc.

Enquiry Report on Tundla Shed Collapse

1597. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1410, given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st December, 2000 and state:

- (a) whether the enquiry report into the Tundla loco-shed collapse in the first week in January, 2001 has been submitted by the enquiry Committee; and
- (b) if not, the reasons for the delay and by when the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.